



CHANGE OF COMMAND—The Joliet Arsenal will have a new commanding officer on Dec. 7, when Lt. Col. James F. Kreitzer, right, takes over from Lt. Col. R. C. Costabile, who has headed the operations for the past five and one-half years. Col. Costabile has been assigned to the European area. (Herald-News photo.)

New Arsenal Chief Named

Co. R. C. Costabile Shifted To Europe

After five and one-half years as commanding officer of the Joliet Arsenal, Lt. Col. R. C. Costabile will turn over that post to the present assistant operations officer, Lt. Col. James F. Kreitzer, effective Dec. 7. Col. Costabile will be assigned duties in Europe.

During his command of the Arsenal, it has passed thru stages from stand-by status employing only 1,100 workers after World War II to its present busy activity with more than 4,000 employees.

ONCE AGAIN as during World War II the U. S. Rubber company is the contractor operating the Kankakee Ordnance works.

Col. Costabile's wife and son, Michael, 13, will join him in Europe, probably Germany, after housing is obtained.

The new commanding officer, Col. Kreitzer, is a native of Savannah, Ga., and reported for duty at the Arsenal on July 15, 1951, from the University of Delaware, where he studied chemistry under the army program.

HE ENLISTED in the army after leaving high school in 1933, served as a private for three years, then received an appointment to West Point. In 1940 he was commissioned a second lieutenant.

During World War II he was attached to an armored division and was principally engaged in tank training.

He is married and he has a son, Freddy, 9. The Kreitzer family lives at the Arsenal.